

35.C15292



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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KEIJI OKINAKA, et al.

Application No.: 09/826,934

Filed: April 6, 2001

For: THRESHOLD MATRIX, AND
METHOD AND APPARATUS
OF REPRODUCING GRAY
LEVELS USING
THRESHOLD MATRIX

) Group Art Unit: 2622

) October 23, 2001

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Technology Center 2200

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U. S. Patent No. 5,111,310
Europe 963105
Japan 2622429
Japan 2000-59626

B.E. Bayer, "An Optimum Method For Two-Level Rendition Of Continuous-Tone Pictures", Proceedings IEEE Int. Conf. Comm., Conference Record, pp. 26-11 to 26-15, 1973.

R.A. Ulichney, "Dithering with Blue Noise", Proceedings of the IEEE, Vol. 76, No. 1, pp. 56-79, January 1988.

T. Mitsa, et al., "Digital halftoning technique using a blue-noise mask",
Journal Optical Society Of America, A/Vol. 9, No. 11, pp. 1920-1929,
November 1992.

It is noted that U.S. Patent 5,111,310 is an English language counterpart of Japan 2622429 and therefore, the concise explanation of relevance for the non-English language document is believed to be satisfied by the U.S. counterpart.

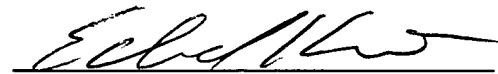
Likewise, Europe 963105 is an English language counterpart for Japan 2000-59626 and therefore, the concise explanation of relevance for the non-English document is believed to be satisfied by the European counterpart.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,

California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.